

Notice to Local Public Officials & Candidates of Requirement to Disclose Interests to the Tennessee Ethics Commission

The Tennessee Ethics Commission wishes to remind all local public officeholders¹ and all candidates for a local public office that they are required under the Comprehensive Governmental Ethics Reform Act of 2006 to file a “Statement of Disclosure of Interests” with the Tennessee Ethics Commission as follows:

Candidates for a Local Public Office: File within 30 days of the last day to qualify as a candidate;

Current Local Officeholders: File with the Commission by no later than January 31, 2007, even if you have previously filed with the Registry of Election Finance.

Newly-Appointed Local Officeholders²: File within 30 days of being appointed to office;

(in addition, note that the government authority that appoints the newly-elected official must send notice to the Ethics Commission within 3 days of appointing the official)

Once submitted to the Commission, the Statement of Disclosure of Interests must be updated by January 31st of every year thereafter (e.g., by no later than January 31st of the following year).

The “Statement of Disclosure of Interests” form, form #SS-8005, can be downloaded from the Ethics Commission’s website: <http://state.tn.us/sos/tec/forms.htm>.

The failure to timely and properly submit the required disclosure statement can, under T.C.A. §3-6-205, result in the imposition of civil penalties in amounts up to \$10,000; thus, please immediately contact the Commission with any questions about these filing requirements by calling (615) 253-8634 or by e-mailing ethics.counsel@state.tn.us.

¹ What is a “local public officeholder”? A local public officeholder is any state, county, municipal, school or other district or precinct office that is filled by voters (e.g., an elected office); note, however, that it does not include the offices of governor, member of the general assembly, delegate to a Tennessee constitutional convention, district attorney general or public defender, or judge of the court of appeals, the court of criminal appeals, or the supreme court.

² A “newly-appointed local public officeholder” is an individual who was appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected local public office.